



General Faculties Council
RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

Meeting 54
March 18, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

By Zoom platform

Voting Members

Robert Thompson, Co-Chair
Andy Knight, Academic Co-Chair
Semhar Abraha – arrived during Item 2
Lyndsay Campbell – arrived during Item 2
David Eaton – left during Item 5
Carolyn Emery
Michael Hill
Tom Keenan
Alex Paquette
Sylvie Roy
Dora Tam
Annette Timm

Non-Voting Members

Hamid Habibi
Thomas Oldenburg

Secretary and Scribe

Elizabeth Sjogren

Staff

Tasha Hodzic

Regrets

Sabine Gilch
Claire Kamaliddin
Dawn Kingston
Seok-Woo Kwon
Mary-Jo Romaniuk
Cathryn Ryan
Robin Yates

Guests

Bruce Evelyn, Vice-Provost (Planning and Resource Allocation) – present for Item 5
Bill Ghali, Vice-President (Research) – present for Items 4 and 5
Stephen Larter, Associate Vice-President (Research - Innovation) – present for Item 4
Marcelo Suarez, Research Analyst (Strategic), Research Services – present for Item 5
John Wilson, President and Chief Executive Officer, Innovate Calgary – present for Item 4

Observer

Frank Maurer, Associate Dean (Innovation & Strategic Partnerships), Faculty of Science

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the March 18, 2021 Research and Scholarship Committee meeting be approved.

Carried

2. Remarks of the Co-Chair and Academic Co-Chair

The Co-Chair included the following in his remarks:

- The Growth Through Focus Congress has concluded, and feedback will now be considered before moving forward
- Updates on various funding opportunities, including the Canada Research Chair, Research Infrastructure Fund, New Frontiers in Research and Canada Foundation for Innovation programs, were provided
- Announcements will be made soon regarding the allocations from the last Canada Research Chair competition and Eyes High Postdoctoral Match-Funding program

The Academic Co-Chair made no remarks.

3. Approval of the February 18, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes of the Research and Scholarship Committee meeting held on February 18, 2021 be approved.

Carried

Semhar Abraha abstained.

4. Innovation Ecosystem Update

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Stephen Larter and John Wilson presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters provided an update on innovation initiatives at the University (including the Hunter Hub, Life Sciences Innovation Hub, University Innovation Quarter, and UCEED), description of the work of the Social Innovation Taskforce, and information about postdoctoral scholars' involvement in innovation at the University

- Discussion included:
 - Innovation in technology, including that this is a priority for the City of Calgary and that there are opportunities for funding in this area
 - Some researchers may not be aware of the Social Innovation activities at the University, and awareness could be grown through efforts such as developing online resources, hosting engagement events and visits to Department meetings. The Knowledge Engagement Unit can also assist in connecting researchers.
 - Researchers need time to engage in transdisciplinary activities
 - Launchpad, the Hunter Hub/Schulich School of Engineering program open to third and fourth-year undergraduate students, graduate students and post-doctoral scholars from all Faculties, and which serves to connect student with mentors and workshops to develop entrepreneurial skills, has been successful and could be grown
 - The ranking of research universities' productivity, such as revenue generation, is impacted by relative data

5. Research Metrics Dashboard

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Bill Ghali, Bruce Evelyn and Marcelo Suarez presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters gave a demonstration of the research metrics dashboard, which is being developed to provide information about scholarly activity at the University. The presenters reported that the dashboard will provide data on a number of measures, including authorships, citation counts, collaborations, recognitions, and grant successes, and that the data can be filtered to present changes over time and comparisons to other institutions.
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
 - The University is ranked 200 by the Times Higher Education World University Rankings system
 - The dashboard will provide data at an institutional level and will expand to provide Faculty level data in the future. The dashboard may provide data at the Departmental and individual researcher levels at some point. The Office of Institutional Analysis can provide Faculty and Department-specific data if needed.
 - Bodies including the SUPPORT Research Prizes and Awards Committee, Research Awards Steering Committee, and Research Awards Working Committee identify which awards are considered to be prestigious, and this list evolves over time
 - If a publication is linked to the University it is captured in the dashboard data, including when the primary author is a graduate student
- Discussion included:
 - The Scopus system does not include information from across all disciplines, and so the dashboard should access additional sources for publication, citation, and collaboration data. Consideration should be given to if the Annual Progress Report data provided by researchers could be incorporated into the dashboard.

- Some researchers have a high teaching load, and this can impact research productivity and how the University compares to other institutions. Context should be provided when the dashboard is made more widely available.
- Comparison to other institutions can be informative, but Faculties should not be compared as scholarship measures and productivity across disciplines can be very different

6. GFC and GFC Standing Committees Meeting Schedules for 2021-2022 and 2022-2023

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda for information only.

7. Other Business

There was no other business.

8. Adjournment

Moved/Seconded

That the Research and Scholarship Committee adjourn the March 18, 2021 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3:39 p.m.

Elizabeth Sjogren
Meeting Secretary